



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
**NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD**  
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT BRANCH  
Washington, D.C. 20570

Via email

May 27, 2022

Re: FOIA Request NLRB-2022-001018

Dear Blake A. Borecky (Cross, Gunter, Witherspoon, and Galchus):

This is in response to your request, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, received on April 22, 2022, in which you seek copies of the formal records in *Duke University*, Case Nos. 11-CA-023108, 17-CA-025149, 11-CA-022550 and 11-CA-022068, including both *Dubo* or *Collyer* deferrals, as well as any documentation mentioning religion, Bethany College, Pacific Lutheran, The University of Great Falls, or jurisdiction in general as a reason for dismissal, withdrawal or settlement. You assumed financial responsibility for the processing of your request in the amount of \$200.00.

We acknowledged your request on April 22, 2022.

As explained below, your request is granted in part and denied in part.

A search of the Agency's electronic casehandling system, NxGen, has been conducted and yielded responsive records, totaling 95 pages, from Case Nos. 11-CA-023108, 17-CA-025149, 11-CA-022550.

After a review, I have determined that portions of the attached records are exempt from disclosure under Exemptions 6 and 7(C) of the FOIA (5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6) and (b)(7)(C)). Specifically, redactions have been made to protect the privacy interests of individuals named in the records. These redactions were made pursuant to FOIA Exemption 6, which pertains to information the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, and FOIA Exemption 7(C), which pertains to records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, the release of which could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6) and (b)(7)(C).

Finally, the searches conducted in NxGen yielded no case records of any type from *Duke University*, Case No. 11-CA-022068. Pursuant to the Agency's record retention and disposition policy, records are retained for a six-year period, which commences at the close of the calendar year during which the case is closed. The records are then destroyed, unless they are selected for permanent retention based on their legal significance. Given the age of the requested case, a further search was made of the list

of permanently retained cases maintained by the Agency's Case Records Unit for cases that closed between 1982 and 2010, and it was confirmed that the requested case was not selected for permanent retention. Therefore, there are no records maintained by the Agency responsive to this portion of your request.

For the purpose of assessing fees, we have placed you in Category A, commercial use requester. This category refers to requests "from or on behalf of a person who seeks information for a use or purpose that furthers the commercial, trade, or profit interests of the requester or the person on whose behalf the request is made, which can include furthering those interests through litigation." NLRB Rules and Regulations, 29 C.F.R. § 102.117(d)(1)(v). Consistent with this fee category, you "will be assessed charges to recover the full direct costs of searching for, reviewing for release, and duplicating the records sought." 29 C.F.R. § 102.117(d)(2)(ii)(A). Charges are \$9.25 per quarter-hour of professional time. 29 C.F.R. § 102.117(d)(2)(i).

One hour of professional time was expended reviewing the requested material for release. Accordingly, please remit \$37.00.

Payment Instructions: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting widespread employee telework at the Agency's Headquarters offices, we are no longer accepting checks or money orders as payment at this time. To submit payment for your FOIA request, please use [www.pay.gov](http://www.pay.gov). From the [www.pay.gov](http://www.pay.gov) home page, scroll down to the bottom left corner to select "Pay a FOIA Request." Click "See all options" and go to "Filter By Agency" to check the box for the National Labor Relations Board. Continue following instructions on the website. Please remember to include the Invoice Number, which is the NLRB FOIA Case No., and the amount you intend to pay. Further, please be advised that all FOIA payments must be paid in full before any future FOIA requests are processed.

You may contact Michael A. Maddox, the Attorney-Advisor who processed your request, at (202) 273-0013 or by email at [Michael.Maddox@nrlrb.gov](mailto:Michael.Maddox@nrlrb.gov), as well as the Agency's FOIA Public Liaison, for any further assistance and/or to discuss any aspect of your request. The FOIA Public Liaison, in addition to the FOIA Attorney-Advisor, can further explain responsive and releasable agency records, suggest agency offices that may have responsive records, and/or discuss how to narrow the scope of a request in order to minimize fees and processing times. The contact information for the FOIA Public Liaison is:

Kristine M. Minami  
FOIA Public Liaison  
National Labor Relations Board  
1015 Half Street, S.E., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20570  
Email: [FOIAPublicLiaison@nrlrb.gov](mailto:FOIAPublicLiaison@nrlrb.gov)  
Telephone: (202) 273-0902

Fax: (202) 273-FOIA (3642)

After first contacting the Agency, you may additionally contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA dispute resolution services it offers. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS  
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001  
Email: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Telephone: (202) 741-5770  
Toll free: (877) 684-6448  
Fax: (202) 741-5769

You may obtain a review of this determination under the NLRB Rules and Regulations, 29 C.F.R. § 102.117(c)(2)(v), by filing an administrative appeal with the Division of Legal Counsel (DLC) through FOIAonline at:

<https://foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home> or by mail or email at:

Nancy E. Kessler Platt  
Chief FOIA Officer  
National Labor Relations Board  
1015 Half Street, S.E., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20570  
Email: [DLCFOIAAppeal@nrlrb.gov](mailto:DLCFOIAAppeal@nrlrb.gov)

Any appeal must be postmarked or electronically submitted within 90 calendar days of the date of this letter. Any appeal should contain a complete statement of the reasons upon which it is based.

Please be advised that contacting any Agency official (including the Attorney-Advisor, FOIA Officer, or the FOIA Public Liaison) and/or OGIS does not stop the 90-day appeal clock and is not an alternative or substitute for filing an administrative appeal.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Synta E. Keeling*

Synta E. Keeling  
FOIA Officer

Attachment: (95 pages)